(b) if so, the number of families living below the poverty line in Himachal Pradesh; and

(c) the action taken to implement poverty alleviation programme and reduce poverty in Himachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No, Sir

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) Poverty alleviation schemes being implemented in Himachal Pradesh include the Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), the Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), the National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPs).

Amendment in pension Rules

2928. DR. SWAMI SAKSHI JI MAHARAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have received any representations from various trade unions with regard to fixing of pension on the basis of last pay drawn as was recommended by the Fifth Central Pay Commission with effect from 1st January, 1996 instead of the average of the last 10 months pay drawn; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken thereon and by when orders to this effect are likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The Fifth Central Pay Commission had not recommended for fixation of pension of Central Government employees on the basis of last pay drawn.

(b) In view of (a) above, this does not arise.